

Message Text

SECRET

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64

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 121851Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5507

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T LONDON 13223

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-L

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, BE, XF

SUBJECT: MORE BELGIAN UNHAPPINESS OVER EEC DECLARATION
ON ME.

REF: BRUSSELS 6311; LONDON 13069 (NOTAL)

1. OVER WEEKEND ANOTHER BELGIAN EMBOFF OF COUNSELLOR
RANK SHOWED US LONG FIRST-PERSON TELEGRAM FROM AMBASSADOR
ROTHSCHILD TO BRUSSELS QUESTIONING WISDOM AND TIMING OF
EEC DECLARATION ON ME. CABLE (WHICH WAS GROUP DRAFTING
EFFORT IN LONDON EMBASSY) CRITICIZED DECLARATION AS
UNLIKELY TO SWAY ARABS, MORE LIKELY THAN NOT TO ENCOURAGE
FUTURE BLACKMAIL, AND BADLY TIMED AS SLAP AT US JUST AT
MOMENT US SO IRRITATED WITH EUROPEANS. NOTING OBVIOUS
BRITISH FCO SATISFACTION WITH DECLARATION IT QUESTIONED
WHETHER PAPERING OVER CONTINUING EUROPEAN DIVISION ON
ME POLICY IS IN LONG RUN HELPFUL TO EUROPEAN UNITY.
IT ENDED ON NOTE DEPLORING GROWING TREND OF BELGIAN
GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIVENESS TO FRENCH POLICY INITIATIVE

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IN APPARENT OBLIVIOUSNESS OF FACT THAT BELGIUM DEPENDS

AND WILL CONTINUE TO DEPEND ON US FOR ITS DEFENSE.

2. BELGIAN COUNSELLOR TOLD US THIS WAS ANOTHER CASE OF LATE-NIGHT NEGOTIATING MENTALITY HAVING PRODUCED PAPER WHICH SOME AT LEAST OF ITS AUTHORS WERE ASHAMED OF BY DAY. HE SAID DAVIGNON HAD JUMPED AT AGREED DECLARATION AS ONE MORE STEP IN PUTTING TOGETHER A UNITED EUROPE. HOWEVER, EVEN DAVIGNON WAS UNHAPPY WITH THIS PRODUCT NOW THAT HE HAD TIME TO ANALYSE ITS IMPLICATIONS, OUR SOURCE SAID.

3. AT SAME TIME, BELGIAN COUNSELLOR CONFIRMED TO US THAT BELGIUM SUPPORTS FRENCH-LANGUAGE VERSION OF UNSC RESOLUTION 242 (A POSITION OF WHICH FCO'S CRAIG HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN UNAWARE -- SEE LONDON'S 13078).

ANNENBERG

NOTE BY OCT: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER MR. WRIGHT S/S-O.

SECRET

NNN

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